Serial No. 10/619,918

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are currently pending and under consideration in the above-referenced application.

Request for Terminal Disclaimers

The Office has indicated that the filing of terminal disclaimers over U.S. Patents 6,593,171 and 6,432,752 will result in the allowance of claims 1-27.

Terminal disclaimers and the appropriate fees are being filed herewith, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(b) and (c), to expedite prosecution of the above-referenced application and avoiding further expense and time delay. The filing of a terminal disclaimer in the above-referenced application should not be construed as acquiescence of any obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that each of claims 1-27 is allowable. It is respectfully requested that each of these claims be allowed and that the above-referenced application be passed for issuance. If any issues preventing the allowance of the above-referenced application remain which might be resolved by way of a telephone conference, the Office is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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